am primarily concerned with the methods of science and technology used for solving this problem—like water targeting, water purification, water conservation etc. Targeting is one of the most important tasks in this because we need water for immediate use during drought. Even without drought there was not enough water for the rural people to use in this country. Therefore we have resorted to various methods, including remote sensing method for detecting sources of under-ground water and these methods are being supplemented by ground methods developed by some of our CSIR laboratories for validating these findings and constructing bore-wells and other sources of water. We have also resorted to conservation of water, water harvesting and also purification because a lot of the water available in the villages is either biologically impure, or it needs filtration and other methods of purification. Therefore, through a series of measures for detecting water sources, developing them, purifying them and conserving them, we are dealing with this question of immediate problem and are also preparing..

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Use of Rain Water

*184. SHRI SHANKAR SINH VAGHELA :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that only 22.5 per cent of the 400 million hectare metres of rain water is available for use;

(b) the amount of the rest of the 77.5 per cent of rain water that could be saved in each case by resolving the present river water disputes between the various States and also by clearing the various water management proposals pending clearance with the Centre; and

(c) the amount of rain and ground water, in percentage, proposed to be utilised, State-wise, by each on-going and by each yet-to-be-launched project and at what estimated costs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Out of an annual precipitation amounting to about 400 million hectare metres, it is estimated that about 70 million hectare metres of surface flow can be utilised. This figure does not include ground water re-charge and rainfall directly absorbed by crops and other vegetation.

(b) and (c) Estimates of this kind are not available. In any case, the major constraints on utilisation of rain water for irrigation are topographical and hydrological.

Cracks on the Hirakud Dam

*185. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cracks that have developed on the Hirakud Dam in Orissa have posed a threat to the dam; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to repair the dam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) No danger is apprehended at present. The Government of Orissa have taken up the work of grouting of the dam with suitable chemical to fill the cracks effectively and sealing upstream cracks with epoxy mortar, based on the recommendations of an expert Committee.

Acting Chief Justices of High Courts

*186. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Judges are working as Acting